

State of Minnesota }
County of Hennepin }

District Court

Fourth Judicial District.

Testimony taken before the Honorable William C. Leary, one of the judges of the above named court, relative to the matter of Habeas Corpus proceedings in re Alexis Georgian, at the Courthouse in Minneapolis Minn. Jan 23rd 1923.

Appearances. Floyd Olson- County

Donald G. Hughes, - Georgian.

Extracts of Sworn Testimony of Frances Morrow. of

Cross Examination by Mr. Hughes.

Q What is your business? A At the present time?

Q Yes? A I am a special employee for the department of Justice.

Q What department of Justice? A Bureau of investigation.

Q What government? A The United States Government.

Q Do you work under attorney general, Daugherty? A I work under Burns.

Q How long have you been in the department of Justice?

A I gave information to him for the past five years, probably a little over

Q Have you been in their employ? A Not in their employ. I give information to them.

Q What do you mean by them? A Desired information as to Aliens.

Q Were you paid for that? A At times.

Q Who were you paid by? A By the director of the department of Justice

Q What is your age? A 39. Q Are you married? A I am.

Q Where is your home. A 1182 Sycamore St. Camden New Jersey.

Q What state were you born in. A Wappinger Falls, New York.

Q What was your business prior to the time you were informing to the Department of Justice? A Ship Fitter, New York Shipyards. (Camden)

Q During the last five years were you affiliated or claim to have been affiliated with any fraternal orders or labor organizations?

A I belong to a Union. Q What Union? A No 261 Ship Builders.

Q You belong now, do you? A I did until about four months ago. I guess I am a member yet.

Q Where is this union located? A Camden, New Jersey.

Q Were you expelled from the union? A No, a member in good standing.

Q Now as to the matter you were testifying to; in Michigan. What were you doing there? Were you a delegate? A I was a delegate.

Q A delegate from where? A From the third district, Philadelphia.

Q A delegate from what order? A A del. The Communist Party of Amer.

Q Who did you first make a report to? A My first report was direct to Washington

Q And who was it for? A Director Burns.

Q You were at that time in the employ of the Federal Government and not in the employ of the State of Michigan? A I was.

Q You know Mr Burns personally do you? A I do.

Q Have you talked to him about this particular case? A I have.

Q Who was present at your talk? A Mr Meyers.

Q Who is he? A A representative of the department of justice.
(Here it is interesting to note that Burns testified under oath at Washington that Meyers, Allen O. Meyers was with the Burns Agency)

Q Did you tell any of those people that you were affiliated with the department of Justice? A Why should I do that?.

Q I am asking you? A No.

Q Did you take part in this convention? A I did.
Q When did you leave Philadelphia? A Sometime on the 13th of August.
Q Who was with you? A A. Bail and John Greisinger.
Q And you three started out as delegates. A We did.
Q Have you seen Bail or the other delegate since this convention? A Twice
Q Where? A Philadelphia. Where? A At 357 South 5th St.
Q You say you saw him there? A Yes.
Q Who was present? A I could not say. We were alone in the back room
Q How many delegates were there at the convention? A I would say 46.
Q Did you take down any of these proceedings that was there? A I did.
Q You took this down in longhand? A I did.
Wrote down questions and answers and things? A As near as I could.
Q Have you those notes now? A I have them home.
Q Have you ever sent them to the department of Justice? A I did not.
Q There were other operators there from the department of Justice? At
the time? A I dont know.
Q Who were you working under? A W.C.Foster.
Is he with the government? A He is the agent in charge.
Q Do you know William Z. Foster? A I do.
Q When did you first meet him? A One year ago.
Where? A Philadelphia. Where? A At a meeting.
Q What meeting? A He spoke for the Friends of Soviet Russia.
Q You were there? A I was.
Q Any other agents of the Department of Justice? A I could not say.
Q You were there as an agent of the department of Justice? A I was not
Q What were you? A A special employe.
Q As a special employe of the Department of Justice you were there at this
meeting. A I was. Q And this was in Philadelphia? A It was.
Q Did you make a report of what took place at this meeting? A Yes.
Q And who to? A To the agent in charge at Philadelphia.
Q What is his name? A W.C.Foster.
Q You say you were present at Bridgman? A I was.
Q This was a political convention? A This was an International Con.
Q What do you mean by an International Convention?
A Authorized by the Soviet Government.
Q How do you know that? A We have reason to believe.
Q But you dont know that? A From instruction, yes.
Q From where? A From the district organizer. Q who is that A Many.
Q They talked about coming out and using legal means to promulgate their
principles? ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~
A I believe I am on the stand here to testify that I saw Georgian at the
convention instead of being cross-examined on other things.
Q You are here to answer the questions I put to you.
A I fail to see where this has got anything to do with it.
Q That makse no difference. You are here to answer my questions. I am
asking you this: Did you make a statement to Governer Prues Saturday
that this convention met and these delegates discussed legal means
like all other parties to come out in the open and tell their doctrines
A I didn't make it that way.
Q How did you kmake it? A What did you say? (Question repeated)
A The governer asked me so I told him what happened at the convention.
Not as a statement, but what I told him after I had sworn that I had
seen him at the convention, and I dont think I have a right to answer
these questions here.
Q You are here to answer what I ask you, and I ask you now to state
what they did at that convention? A In the first place to form-
ulate plans to overthrow the United States Government.
Q I am asking you now to tell us what was said as you claim to overthrow
this government? A
A The plan was formulated and a new program was to be put in process.

Q What was this plan? A Many different plans. One for instance, you want something ~~had~~, was an educational plan of communism.

Q What was said there as to how that educational plan was to be put forth? A Why, you mean what they said to put it forth?

Q Yes? A A resolution was passed.

Q What was the resolution? A They wanted to put this into execution to gain control by working among the masses.

Q Nothing in that resolution about terrorism or anything of that kind
A If necessary.

Q Was the word terrorism used? A I don't say it was used.

Q Was the word Sabotage used? Yes many times.

Q In that resolution? A I cannot say.

Q Who did you arrest there? A Who did I arrest?

Q The authorities, was anybody arrested there? A Some seventeen.

Q Do you remember their names? A Not all of them.

Q This defendant was one? A No, he was lucky to get away.

Q Did you see him when he left? No. Q How do you know he left. A I know

Q Are you a communist? A Not at heart.

Q Just for business reasons? A For two special reasons.

Q You are simply a communist for the purpose of getting information? A

Q What is your political party? A I have no political Party. Yes.

Q Were you arrested? A I was.

Q When did you first make yourself known to the agents? as an agent of the department of Justice, or a special employe? A At the time I was arrested.

Q Who did you make that known to? A Mr. Wolfe, an agent.

Q What is his business? A An agent of the department of Justice.

Q Was this raid by the United States or by the State of Michigan?

Q The raid was by the state of Michigan as far as I can understand It.

Q Do you remember Governor ~~Præs~~ asking you this question: "What do you mean by open legal work?" and you answered, referring to the delegates "They were fighting in the open, working up the trade unions and other labor parties where they could get at and tell the people, that is the public, what program we have and at the same time be guided by the C.P Communist Party." You made that statement to the Governor?

A Read that first part again.

Q The governor said, "What was their easy way?" and your answer was, "Through open legal work." and then the Governor said, "What do you mean by open legal work?" and you answered, "They were fighting in the open."

A No you misunderstood me, there.

Q That is what the stenographer took down. A They were to fight in the open if they could, providing they were not molested.

Q But didn't you tell the governor that? You said they were fighting in the open working among trade unions.

A Working among trade unions, I said.

Q And other labor parties? A In other labor parties, I said.

Q Where they could get out and tell the people, that is the public, what their program was? Did you say that?

A I believe probably I did. You put some wrong statements in there.

Q You saw a man writing everything down? A I cannot help what he wrote down. You had a possible chance to change it afterwards.

Q There was considerable debate between factions was there? A I guess so.

Q Well you told the governor so? A There was.

Q This matter was debated back and forth? A It was.

Q and as you said a while ago this was all out of doors? A And under guard

Q Then again under cross examination I asked you this: "You say this was a political convention" A I didn't say that.

Q And you said to me, "Yes it would be an International convention."

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Q You want to change that? A Of course I do.
Q That it was not a political convention? A I didnt testify to that.
Q Then I asked you, "At this convention you say they discussed legal
means?" and you answered me, "Yes legal means in a legal way"
A I did not. Controlled by the underground party.
Q You want to deny that statement now? A I dont want to deny that I
want to tell the truth every time.
Q Did you tell your fellow delegates the truth when you were last toge-
ther? A I had no reason to tell them the truth last August.
Q You lied to them? A I had no reason to lie to them.
Q You did lie to them? A I did not, How did I lie to them?
Q You took an oath did you not, there? A Not at the convention.
Q And this oath was not taken at the convention?
A Before you want to the convention.
Q Did you take such an oath at the district? A I did.
Q What was it? A I cannot say. Q You took it? A Yes.
Q You dont know what it was? A Some parts.
Q Can you tell us? A That we would abide by the discipline of the
Communist Party.
Q Nothing in the oath to overthrow the government? A It was positive.
Q You took an oath to overthrow the government?
A No I didnt take an oath to overthrow the government.
Mr Hughes: That is all.